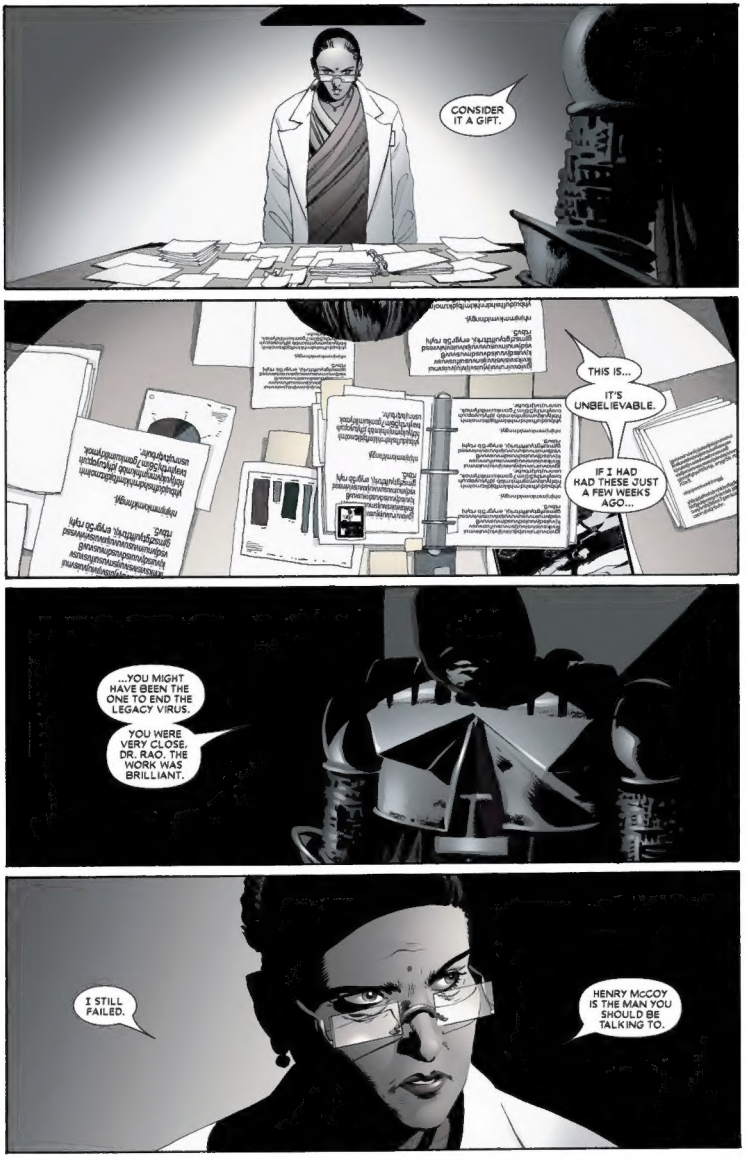
MARVEL
PSR 6
WHEDON
CASSADAY
ASTONISHING
X-MEN


CONSIDER IT A GIFT.
THIS IS...
IT'S UNBELIEVABLE.
IF I HAD HAD THESE JUST A FEW WEEKS AGO...
...YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE ONE TO END THE LEGACY VIRUS.
YOU WERE VERY CLOSE, DR. RAO. THE WORK WAS BRILLIANT.
I STILL FAILED.
HENRY McCOY IS THE MAN YOU SHOULD BE TALKING TO.

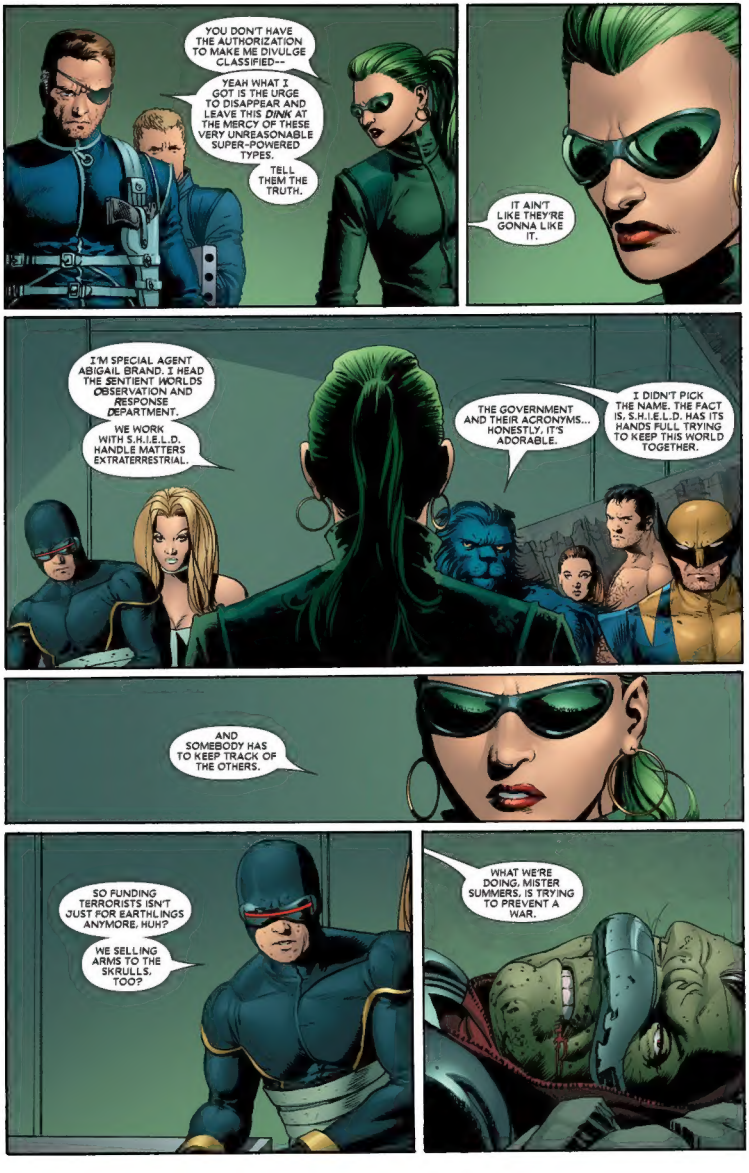
Love Megan

I DON'T BELIEVE DR. McCOY WOULD BE OBJECTIVE ABOUT MY... OBJECTIVE.
GIVEN HIS CONDITION.
UNDERSTAND THIS--NO ONE IS TO BE HURT. WHATEVER YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT MUTANTS, I WILL NOT BE A PARTY TO MURDER.
WHY, DOCTOR. I HAVE JUST THIS NIGHT DONE THE OPPOSITE.
I HAVE RESUSCITATED A MUTANT YOUR EARTH-BASED SCIENCE THOUGHT DECEASED.
I UNDERSTAND YOUR MISTRUST. IN POINT OF FACT, I RESPECT IT.
BUT THERE ARE MILLIONS OF LIVES AT STAKE, AND MY ONLY INTEREST IS IN SAVING THEM.
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU CAN TURN YOUR BACK ON THAT OPPORTUNITY.
AGENT BRAND, DO YOU HAVE THE FILE ON TILDIE SOAMES?

DIPLOMATIC #%$@*@%!!@#$@% #%$##@ #$$%$#@# $$#%$#@#$%#%@ $#$@$%@@@%@@@$ #%$##%@@@@@@!! IMMUNITY?
YOU HEARD ME, TINY.
AND HAVING HEARD, YOU WALK AWAY.

NOT BLOODY LIKELY.
PLAY ME STRAIGHT, FURY. THIS DINK IS A DIPLOMAT?
YOU DON'T NEED THAT INFORMATION.
AND YOU DON'T NEED BOTH THOSE ARMS, HYDRA-HAIR.
SEEMS LIKE YOU GOT A FEW ANSWERS OF YOUR OWN SHOULD BE COMING.
CHIEF AMONG THEM:
WASN'T THAT GUY DEAD?
HE WAS *HERE*. HERE BEING *TORTURED*, BEING TESTED BY ORD LIKE AN ANIMAL SO YOU COULD DESIGN YOUR *CURE*.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
YOU DON'T? YOU'RE CLEARLY IN BED WITH THIS ALIEN *BERK* YET YOU'VE NO CLUE WHAT HE'S BEEN UP TO.
DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU. GREAT BIG COVERT MUCKITY, AND ALL THAT.
HOW DO YOU KNOW YOUR COLOSSUS IS THE GENUINE ARTICLE IN THE FIRST PLACE?
I READ HIS MIND.
I MATCHED HIS DNA.
I SMELLED HIM.
I ALSO DID THAT.
THIS IS PETER NIKOLAIEVITCH RASPUTIN.
AND YOU OWE HIM THE GODDAMN TRUTH.
AGENT BRAND?


YOU DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE ME DIVULGE CLASSIFIED--
YEAH WHAT I GOT IS THE URGE TO DISAPPEAR AND LEAVE THIS DINK AT THE MERCY OF THESE VERY UNREASONABLE SUPER-POWERED TYPES.
TELL THEM THE TRUTH.
IT AIN'T LIKE THEY'RE GONNA LIKE IT.
I'M SPECIAL AGENT ABIGAIL BRAND. I HEAD THE SENTIENT WORLDS OBSERVATION AND RESPONSE DEPARTMENT.
WE WORK WITH S.H.I.E.L.D. HANDLE MATTERS EXTRATERRESTRIAL.
THE GOVERNMENT AND THEIR ACRONYMS... HONESTLY, IT'S ADORABLE.
I DIDN'T PICK THE NAME. THE FACT IS, S.H.I.E.L.D. HAS ITS HANDS FULL TRYING TO KEEP THIS WORLD TOGETHER.
AND SOMEBODY HAS TO KEEP TRACK OF THE OTHERS.
SO FUNDING TERRORISTS ISN'T JUST FOR EARTHLINGS ANYMORE, HUH?
WE SELLING ARMS TO THE SKRULLS, TOO?
WHAT WE'RE DOING, MISTER SUMMERS, IS TRYING TO PREVENT A WAR.

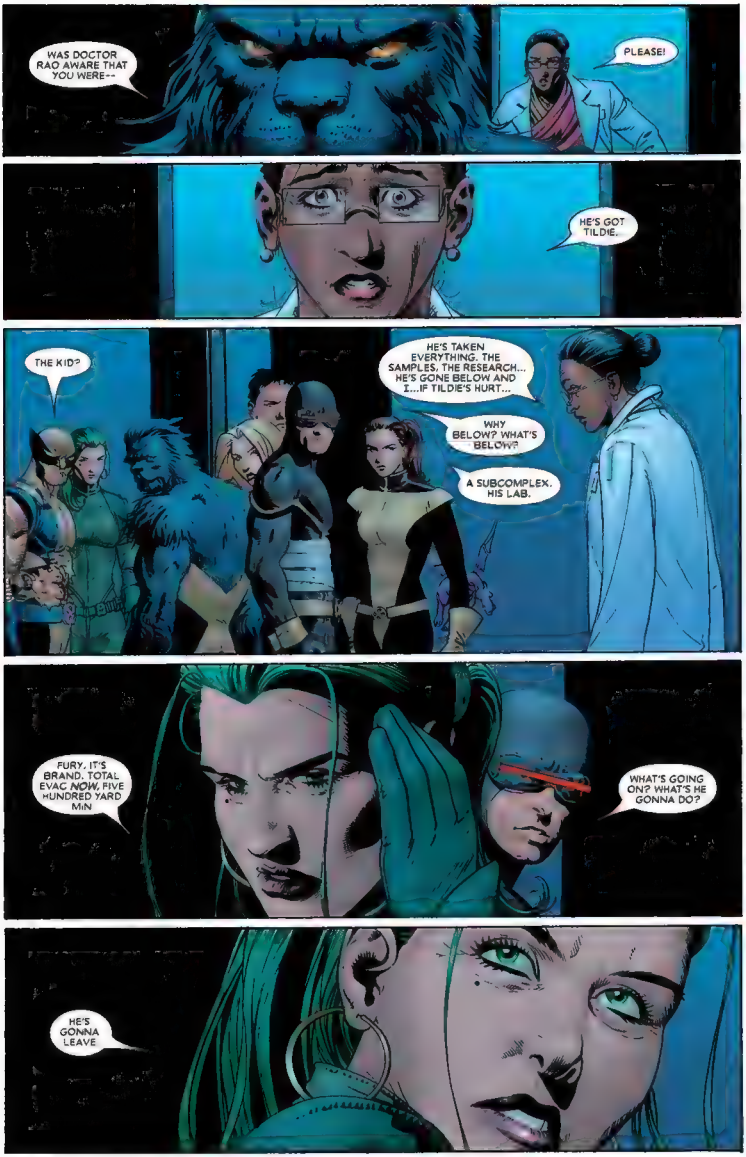
WHERE IS IT?
WHERE'S THE CURE?!
HOLD FIRE! THESE ARE CIVILIANS!
NO MORE WAIT... PLEASE...
NEED BODY...WHOLE BODY...

NEED BE HUMAN...
SIR, WE'VE HAD A PERIMETER BREACH ON THE SOUTHWEST CORNER!
REALLY? THAT'S GOOD TO KNOW.
IT'S A FULL-SCALE RIOT, SIR!
WELL CALL IN THE SANDMEN, PUT 'EM TO SLEEP! AND THEN DEMOTE YOURSELF TO *CROSSING GUARD*, YA MORON.
ORD.
WHERE'S ORD?
"AND THAT'S ALL I HAVE TO SAY TO YOU, YOU HIPPOKITSI. I DON'T EVEN WANT TEA OR CAKE."
WE NEED AGENTS UP IN RESEARCH RIGHT NOW! ORD IS LOOSE AND VERY UNSTABLE!
WHAT THE--

"YOU PEOPLE ARE IN A WORLD OF TROUBLE."
WELL, THAT'S THE WORLD WE'RE FROM.
FINISH YOUR STORY, AGENT.
GENOCIDE. "AND THEY ALL DIED SUDDENLY EVER AFTER." THE END.
YOU LIKE IT?

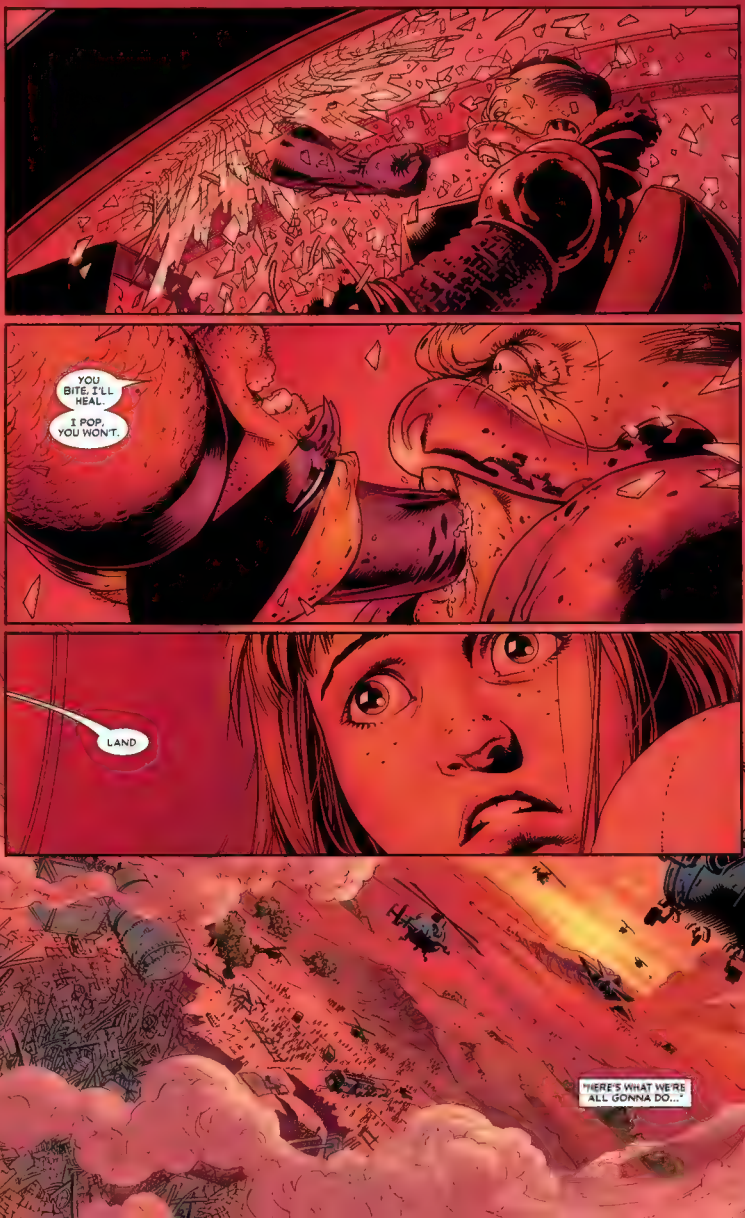
THE BREAKWORLD'S TECHNOLOGIES INCLUDE SOMETHING THAT TRANSLATES ROUGHLY AS "TIMESHADOWS".
THEY CAN SEE A PARTIAL VERSION OF THE FUTURE. NOT VISIT, NOT CHANGE, JUST SEE.
"THEY SAW A WORLD IN CHAOS.
"IN ASHES.
"THE BREAKWORLD, GONE IN THEIR LIFETIMES, DESTROYED UTTERLY.
"BY A MUTANT."
MOST PROBABLY AN X-MAN.

SO YOU GOT TOGETHER AND DECIDED TO TAKE CARE OF THE MUTIES ONCE AND FOR ALL, HUH?
DEAL WITH THE FACTS, BUMBLEBEE. OUR OWN PRECOG STATS CONFIRMED THEIR FINDINGS. A MUTANT WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY DESTROY THE BREAKWORLD IN THE NEXT THREE YEARS.
THAT'S A WHOLE WORLD, GONE, BECAUSE OF ONE MUTANT.
THAT WOULDN'T BE A FIRST, NOW, WOULD IT?
JEAN
JEAN GREY IS *DEAD*, AGENT.
YEAH, *THAT'LL* LAST
DID YOU KNOW WHAT HE WAS DOING TO PETER? ALL THIS TIME, DID YOU KNOW?
YES.
FURY DIDN'T. NOT HIS DEPARTMENT
WHAT ABOUT KAVITA?
ORD CAME HERE WITH A DECLARATION OF *WAR*, PEOPLE. THE CURE WAS DIPLOMATIC TAP DANCING TILL WE COULD GET A BEAD ON WHICH MUTANT WAS--
PLEASE ANSWER MY QUESTION.


WAS DOCTOR RAO AWARE THAT YOU WERE--
PLEASE!
HE'S GOT TILDIE..
THE KID?
HE'S TAKEN EVERYTHING. THE SAMPLES, THE RESEARCH... HE'S GONE BELOW AND I...IF TILDIE'S HURT...
WHY BELOW? WHAT'S BELOW?
A SUBCOMPLEX. HIS LAB.
FURY. IT'S BRAND. TOTAL EVAC *NOW*. FIVE HUNDRED YARD MIN
WHAT'S GOING ON? WHAT'S HE GONNA DO?
HE'S GONNA LEAVE

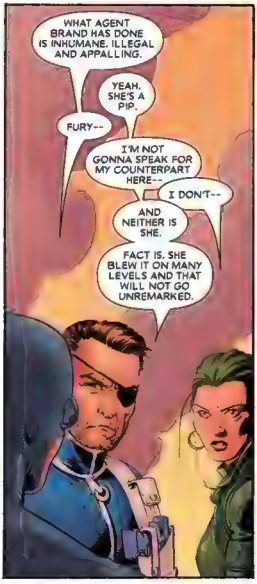
YOU WERE GONNA BRIEF ME ON THIS, I'M SURE.
CAN YOU BRING HIM DOWN?
NOT A CHANCE.
HE'S GOT THE BLOODY SERUM, PEOPLE! HIT HIM WITH THE JET!
THERE'S A GIRL IN THERE WITH HIM!
YOU HAVE TO HELP HER...
YOU'RE NOT SEEING THE BIG PICTURE TOO WELL ANYMORE
HE'S BUILDING TO VERTICAL THRUST. TEN SECONDS AND HE'S GONE.
NO.
HE DOESN'T GET AWAY.
YOU FEELING RESTED UP, PETEY?
I AM STRONG
THEN I GOT JUST TWO WORDS FOR YOU, BUB.

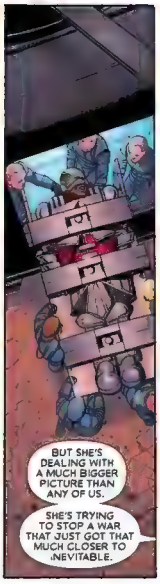
YOU REALLY HAVE KEPT IN SHAPE
HHHHNGK!
NYWHOAH!
RRRRRRRMMMMMMM
DID THE DOCTOR TELL YOU THERE WOULD BE NO MORE NIGHTMARES, LITTLE ONE?
DID YOU ALWAYS KNOW SHE WAS LYING?
THERE WILL BE NIGHTMARES. I WILL MAKE THE EARTH AN ENDLESS, SHRIEKING BLACKNESS.
FIRST THE MUTANTS. I HAVE MY "CURE" NOW, AND AS LONG AS I HAVE YOU THEY'LL WAIT JUST LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO--


YOU BITE, I'LL HEAL.
I POP, YOU WON'T.
LAND
"HERE'S WHAT WE'RE ALL GONNA DO..."

...NOT A SOLITARY THING.
WE ALL WALK AWAY FROM THIS LIKE NOTHING HAPPENED. WHICH, AFTER S.H.I.E.L.D. GETS DONE HERE, WILL BE MORE OR LESS THE TRUTH.

YOU ARE OF COURSE JOKING.
OF COURSE. THIS IS ONE OF THOSE JOKES I'M SO FAMOUS AND BELOVED FOR.


WHAT AGENT BRAND HAS DONE IS INHUMANE. ILLEGAL AND APPALLING.
YEAH. SHE'S A PIP.
FURY--
I'M NOT GONNA SPEAK FOR MY COUNTERPART HERE--
I DON'T--
AND NEITHER IS SHE.
FACT IS. SHE BLEW IT ON MANY LEVELS AND THAT WILL NOT GO UNREMARKED.

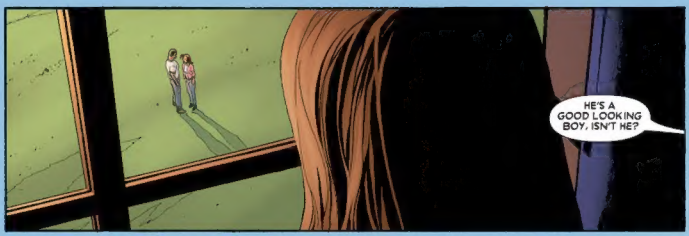

BUT SHE'S DEALING WITH A MUCH BIGGER PICTURE THAN ANY OF US.
SHE'S TRYING TO STOP A WAR THAT JUST GOT THAT MUCH CLOSER TO INEVITABLE.

AND SINCE THE ONLY THINGS THAT GOT WRECKED IN THAT LANDING WERE DR. RAO'S WORK AND THE ILLUSTRIOUS AMBASSADOR...
...AND IT'S INTERESTING HOW THAT WORKED OUT...
...I'D COUNT MY BLESSINGS AND GO.

OUR BLESSINGS.
LOGAN DESTROYED A LOT OF DR. RAO'S WORK BUT THAT'S A SETBACK OF MONTHS AT THE MOST.
THE CURE WILL BE OUT THERE, AND IN THE HANDS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WE CAN'T POSSIBLY TRUST.
MEANWHILE WE HAVE MUTANT RIOTS BREWING IN EVERY MAJOR CITY OVER THIS CURE, A STUDENT OF OURS HAS BEEN NEUTERED BY IT, AND OH! YES! ONE OF US IS PREDESTINED TO DESTROY A PLANET AND START AN INTERGALACTIC WAR.
I'LL BE BLESSED.
WE GOT PETE.
HELL OF A THING...
BOY'S NAMED RASPUTIN. SHOULD HAVE KNOWN HE WOULDN'T BE THAT EASY TO KILL.
YOU GONNA USE IT?
THE CURE. YOUR SAMPLE'S STILL COOLING IN--
I KNOW.
I DON'T KNOW.

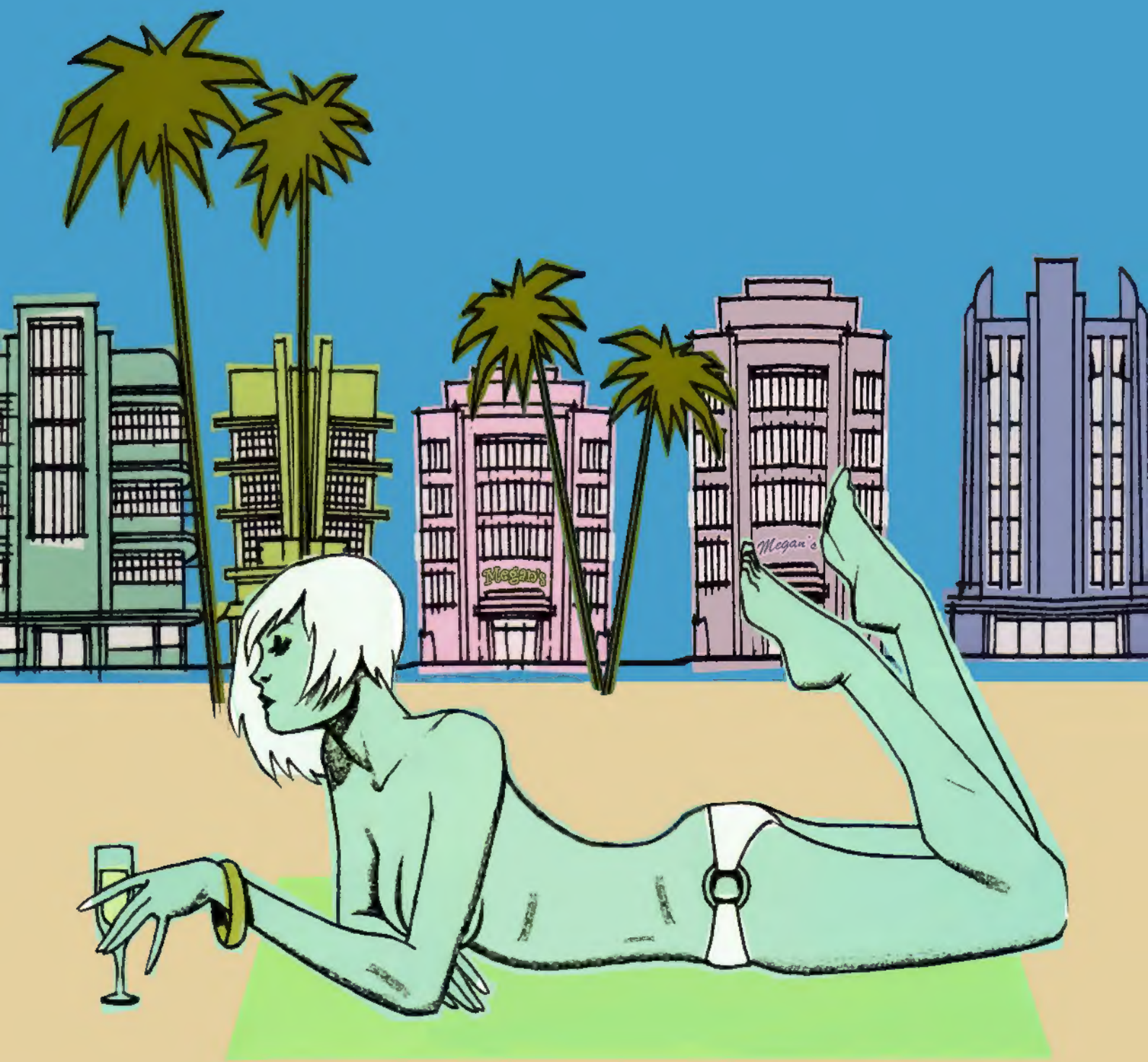
I HEARD ABOUT THE CURE, IT WAS LIKE THIS GREAT WEIGHT HAD BEEN LIFTED FROM MY SHOULDERS.
I NEVER FELT THAT WEIGHT TILL I FELT IT GONE.
IF ORD HAD TAPPED ME INSTEAD OF THAT POOR KID... MAYBE THIS WOULD ALL BE SIMPLE.
BUT IT'S NOT.
I'VE SEEN SO MUCH SELF-LOATHING, THESE DESPERATE PEOPLE... LOGAN WAS RIGHT.
AND I'M COUNTING ON YOU NEVER TO TELL HIM I SAID THAT...
AN X-MAN DOESN'T QUIT. NOT WITH THE WORLD WATCHING.
I'M NOT SAYING NEVER.
DIDN'T ASK YOU TO.
SO... PETE.
HELL OF A THING...

I LEAVE THE WORLD IN TERRIBLE TURMOIL.
I COME BACK. SAME TURMOIL. NOTHING AT ALL DIFFERENT.
WELL, OUTFITS ARE A LITTLE DIFFERENT...
IT IS FUNNY THAT IT'S YOU WHO FINDS ME. DON'T YOU THINK?
NO. I DON'T THINK IT'S FUNNY.
I THINK MAYBE IT'S IMPORTANT.
I THINK IT'S... SOMEHOW...
I THINK IT'S WHY I'M HERE.


HE'S A GOOD LOOKING BOY, ISN'T HE?

IF YOU LIKE THE TALL, MUSCULAR, SQUARE-JAWED, UNBELIEVABLY GORGEOUS TYPE... I SUPPOSE HE'S ALL RIGHT.
IT CHANGES THE EQUATION.

NO.
SHE IS STILL THE ISSUE.
WELL, NOT TO WORRY.
WHEN IT STARTS...

"...WE DEAL WITH HER FIRST."

Megan